

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed April 5, 2007 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-15 and 20-25 are pending. No claims stand allowed.

Claims 1-8 and 16-19 were previously cancelled.

Claims 9-15 and 20-24 have been amended to further particularly point out and distinctly claim subject matter regarded as the invention. Support for these changes may be found in the specification and figures as originally filed. The text of claim 25 is unchanged, but its meaning is changed because it depends from an amended claim.

Objections to the Claims

Claim 10 stands objected to for various informalities.¹ With this Amendment, Claim 10 has been amended accordingly. Withdrawal of the objection to Claim 10 is respectfully requested.

The 35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

Claims 9-15 and 20-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101, as allegedly not reciting a tangible result. The Examiner states:

Claims 9-15 and 20-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because regarding claims 9, 11-15, 20-24, these claims recite the process or instructions for opening a file, but fails to recite a tangible result, a requirement for compliance with the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 101 in view of the Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility, published on 26 October 2005, which can be found at <http://www.usoto.ciov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/Dreoanotice/guidelinesl_Ol_20051026.pdf>, particularly with respect to ANNEX IV Computer-Related Nonstatutory Subject Matter, beginning on page

¹ Office Action mailed April 5, 2007, p. 2.

50. For a result to be tangible, it must be more than just a thought or a computation; it must have real-world value rather than an abstract result.²

With this Amendment, independent claims 9, 11-15, and 20-24 have been amended to recite the tangible result of opening a file stored on a nonvolatile memory medium. Accordingly withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 101 rejection is respectfully requested.

Conclusion

It is believed that this Amendment places the above-identified patent application into condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Please charge any additional required fee or credit any overpayment not otherwise paid or credited to our deposit account No. 50-1698.

Respectfully submitted,

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² Office Action at p. 3.